



#bestschoolyear ever

Coming up in November...

6th Election Day, No School

7th First Quarter Honor Roll Program

8th Veterans Day Program

12th-16th American Education Week

15th Family Literacy Night 5:30-7:30

21st-23rd Thanksgiving
Break, No School

22nd Thanksgiving Day

27th Early Dismissal 2:15



**ST. MATTHEWS K-8
FAMILY NIGHT CARNIVAL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15th
SMK8 GYMNASIUM
5:30-7:30
Dinner 7:00-7:30
Literacy Tips for Parents
Vocabulary Enrichment
Games
Reading and Writing Activities
Door Prizes and More**

Beta Club Installation of Officers

St. Matthews K-8 Beta Club officers were installed on Thursday, October 25, 2018. Our Beta Club strives to uphold excellence in promoting the ideas of academic achievement, character, leadership, and service among elementary and middle school students. Our Beta Club members will also participate in community service projects throughout the school year. It is the goal of SMK8 faculty and staff to demonstrate to children how to assist others in being the best he or she can be. The Beta Club is lead by Dr. Wanda L. Green-Adams, Ms. Ellen Heatley, Mrs. Donnica Darby, Mrs. Courtney Dixon, and Ms. MyKeida Middleton. Our newly installed officers are as follows: President (Shanari Buckner), Vice President (Destiny Gleaton), Secretary (Kemyriah Haynes), and Treasurer (Ganiya Smith). At SKM8, we're **"model examples of excellence"** in efforts to **EMPOWER. COMPETE. & SUCCEED."**



We would like to thank all the students and staff for supporting the non-perishable food drive. A total of 722 items were collected. The winners were as follows: First Place: 8th Grade, Second Place: 3rd Grade, and Third Place: 1st Grade. Congratulations winners!

November Character Trait Empathy



Pumpkin time with PreKPre-K has been having fun learning about pumpkins by describing them using our senses, determining if they sink or float, and we even carved one! Each student was able to scoop some of the insides out with their hands! Yucky!



**Families that READ
Together, Succeed Together**

Classroom Happenings...



Kindergarten



Our kindergarten classes enjoyed our first visit to the Calhoun County Library. We are learning new letters, letter sounds, and sight words every week! Exciting events are happening at school: the Book Fair, Parent Conferences, and Literacy Carnival Night. Hope to see you there!

First Grade

The first grade team is excited to share they will be partnering with the Calhoun County Museum this year to enhance lessons. Students just completed Social Studies Unit on American Symbols and will now be introducing Sound Unit in Science. Students are excited to be engaged in their first project to create a musical instrument and explore the multiple sounds they project.

Second Grade

WOW! BOOM! BAM! We successfully completed our first 9 weeks of the school year! Engaging and robust are two words that come to mind when we think of all the experiences we have had at St. Matthews K-8 School thus far. We are spending a great deal of time helping students develop number sense. This in turn helps students to invent, share, and refine strategies in the classroom. Basic facts are useful in estimation and mental math. So what can you do as parents? Help your child by practicing their basic facts. First, set a reasonable goal. "Let's see if we can learn all the +1 facts for the numbers 0 - 9 in one week." Then spend about 10 minutes 4 times a week helping your child practice the facts. Make flashcards or play a game that helps them learn their facts.

Third Grade

As we embark upon the 2nd quarter, we are asking all parents to not just share a book with their children, but a reading experience as well. As you listen to your child read their 20 minutes daily, ask them what different parts of the story remind him or her of. Maybe the story brings to mind a scene from a movie the family watched or an episode from a favorite cartoon. Making real-world connections can also help in other subject areas as well. Even a simple trip to the grocery store can be educational when students are asked to connect things like sharing a bag of 12 oranges among four family members to division, for example.

Fourth Grade

This has been a wonderful nine weeks of learning math facts, meeting AR goals, doing science experiments and implementing character traits. Next nine weeks our students will explore further out in space and move from meteorologist to astronomers. Students are continuing to learn about how our nation came to be as various explores ventured to North America. Continue to support your child by ensuring that they are reading daily for at least 30 minutes.



Seventh Grade

Seventh graders are worked diligently on our ELA unit entitled "The Sentence." Students conducted research on subject and predicate, simple subject and verb, compound subjects and verbs, and the four kinds of sentences. With this information, students created a Google Slides presentation to teach the skill to their peers as they presented. As a culminating activity, students created and illustrated a flyer to reinforce the skill. The students did an outstanding job with this assignment. Now, we are off to our next adventure as we learn the fictional elements of a story. Students completed graphic organizers to show these elements and then designed a mini-poster to show character, setting, plot, conflict, climax, falling action, resolution, and theme using fairy tales. Projects will be done in groups as students construct one of these story elements. Projects will be on display in my room after completion. I can't wait to see some of the much talented work that my students have to share. Saying it in advance, "Hats off to these sensational seventh graders!"

Fifth Grade

As we begin the second nine weeks we want to congratulate our students who met their AR Goal for the first nine weeks. We expect all students to read 30 minutes every night. Reading every night improves students' performance in every subject area. Currently in ELA, we are learning to analyze and interpret the author's use of Figurative Language. In math, our students are Multiplying Whole Numbers. It is imperative that all fifth graders know their multiplication facts. In order to achieve this, daily practice is required. Our Science classes are packed with students learning about Food Chains. In Social Studies, students are traveling west. They are learning about Westward Expansion in the US. Our students will Make It! Thanks for your continued support and encouragement from home.

Sixth Grade The 6th grade team is hard at work as we jump start the 2nd Nine Weeks. In Math, students are using operations to manipulate fractions, solving inequalities, and equations. In ELA and Social Studies, students are exploring the realms of Ancient India, 1st and 2nd Hand Accounts, and the various types of sources. In Science are busy practicing their meteorology skills as we investigate weather and the factors that impact it. We also had the pleasure of working with Ms. Mason from 4H to explore CODING. Students created their very own scene by animating their name. 6th Grade Challenge: With your child, complete the Animate a Name Activity. Log on to g.co/csfirst/nysdkit to access the activity. Parents and students who complete the activity will receive a science QUIZ grade!

St. Matthews K-8

Empower, Compete, Succeed